

Videogames created in a children's hospital with the support of Google

LOCATION: Seville

DURATION: 1'42"

SUMMARY: It's an initiative of 'Programamos', an Andalusian non-profit organization that aims to spread computational thinking among the youngest. Its volunteers have broad experience in teaching robotics and programming and, since a few months ago, they decided to bring their initiative to the hospitalized children of the Virgen del Rocío Hospital in Seville. These kids learn programming by developing their own videogames. The project, coordinated by the Social Work Area of the centre, has been possible thanks to the support of Google. Their goal is to make the stay of the children at the hospital more entertaining and, why not, maybe awaken new programming vocations.

VTR:

There they are. In their pyjamas, surrounded by droppers. They are the hospitalized children of the Virgen del Rocío Hospital in Seville, and they are learning programming by developing their own videogames.

JOSÉ IGNACIO HUERTAS
Cofounder of 'Programamos'

"Our goal is to bring computational thinking to all the educational stages, from primary school to higher education, until college. And everything is done in a fun way."

Volunteers teach this workshop twice a week. They belong to a teachers association, Programamos, which aims to spread programming and robotics among children. Since a few months ago, they also develop this task in the hospital, and they do it with the support of Google.

JOSÉ IGNACIO HUERTAS
Cofounder of 'Programamos'

"We were internationally awarded by them, with the Google Rise Award. We were the only entity in Spain to receive that award. We could say that it is a prize that is given to entities that try to spread computing, mostly in environments where there are children in need or at risk."

AGUSTINA HERVÁS
Social Work Chief of the hospital

"It is important for the hospital to open its doors to the community and that the community enters the hospital."

They use Scratch, a free app created by the MIT of Massachusetts. With it, and under the supervision of some curious parents, videogames begin to take shape.

JOSÉ IGNACIO HUERTAS
Cofounder of 'Programamos'

"Entertaining activities with minors that are going to give them moments of joy and fun."

AGUSTINA HERVÁS
Social Work Chief of the hospital

"That motivation could favour a faster recovery and even a more bearable stay."

Who knows, maybe there's someone who, after receiving these lessons, says: "When I grow up, I want to be a programmer."

For more information or support please call +34 647 310 157 or email info@andalusianstories.com